## Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA

#### Qualities

1—Choice. 2—Fine. 3—Good. 4—Fair. 5—Low. 6—Poor.

#### Color Symbols

L—Lemon. LL—Whitish-lemon. F—Orange. FR—Orange red. R—Red. K—Variegated. KR—Variegated red or scorched. G—Green. V—Greenish. GR—Green red. GK—Green variegated. GG—Gray green. KL—Variegated lemon. KF—Variegated orange. KV—Variegated greenish. KM—Variegated mixed. KD—Variegated dark red. LL—Whitish-lemon.

### Combination Symbols

XL—Lug side. PO—Oxidized primings, XO—Oxidized lugs or cutters. BO—Oxidized leaf or smoking leaf. GL—Thin-bodied nondescript. GF—Medium-bodied nondescript. LP—Lemon (primings side). FP—Orange (primings side). KK—Excessively scorched.

#### Special Symbol

S—Slick

[42 FR 21092, Apr. 25, 1977, as amended at 48 FR 29672, June 28, 1983; 49 FR 16757, Apr. 20, 1984; 51 FR 25028, July 10, 1986; 52 FR 28534, July 31, 1987]

OFFICIAL STANDARD GRADES FOR VIRGINIA FIRE-CURED TOBACCO (U.S. TYPE 21)

AUTHORITY: Sections 29.2251 to 29.2481, issued under 7 U.S.C. 511m and 511r.

SOURCE: Sections 29.2251 through 29.2481 appear at 37 FR 13521, July 11, 1972, unless otherwise noted.

## DEFINITIONS

## § 29.2251 Definitions.

As used in these standards, the words and phrases hereinafter defined shall have the indicated meanings so assigned.

## § 29.2252 Air-dried.

The condition of unfermented tobacco as customarily prepared for storage under natural atmospheric conditions.

# § 29.2253 Body.

The thickness and density of a leaf or the weight per unit of surface. (See chart, §29.2351.)

# § 29.2254 Brown colors.

A group of colors ranging from a reddish brown to yellowish brown. These colors vary from low to medium saturation and from very low to medium brilliance. As used in these standards, the range is expressed as light brown (L), medium brown (F), and dark brown (D).

#### § 29.2255 Class.

A major division of tobacco based on method of cure or principal usage.

#### § 29.2256 Clean.

Tobacco is described as clean when it contains only a normal amount of sand or soil particles. Leaves grown on the lower portion of the stalk normally contain more dirt or sand than those from higher stalk positions. (See Rule 4, §29.2395.)

## § 29.2257 Color.

The third factor of a grade based on the relative hues, saturation or chroma, and color values common to the type.

## § 29.2258 Color intensity.

The varying degree of saturation or chroma. Color intensity as applied to tobacco describes the strength or weakness of a specific color or hue. It is applicable to brown colors. (See chart, § 29.2351.)

## § 29.2259 Color symbols.

As applied to this type, color symbols are: L—light brown, F—medium brown, D—dark brown, M—mixed or variegated, G—green, GL—light green, and GD—dark green.

[45 FR 47115, July 14, 1980]

### § 29.2260 Condition.

The state of tobacco which results from the method of preparation or from the degree of fermentation. Words used to describe the condition of tobacco are undried, air-dried, steamdried, sweating, sweated, and aged.

### § 29.2261 Crude.

A subdegree of maturity. Crude leaves are usually hard and slick as a result of extreme immaturity. A similar condition may result from fire-kill, sunburn, or sunscald. Any leaf which is crude to the extent of 20 percent or

## § 29.2262

more of its surface may be described as crude. (See Rule 19, §29.2410.)

#### § 29.2262 Cured.

Tobacco dried of its sap by either natural or artificial processes.

#### § 29.2263 Damage.

The effect of mold, must, rot, black rot, or other fungous or bacterial diseases which attack tobacco in its cured state. Tobacco having the odor of mold, must, or rot is considered damaged. (See Rule 20, §29.2411.)

#### §29.2264 Dirty.

The state of tobacco containing an abnormal amount of dirt or sand, or tobacco to which additional quantities of dirt or sand have been added. (See Rule 22, §29.2413.)

## §29.2265 Elasticity.

The flexible, springy nature of the tobacco leaf to recover approximately its original size and shape after it has been stretched. (See chart, §29.2351.)

# § 29.2266 Elements of quality.

Physical characteristics used to determine the quality of tobacco. Words selected to describe degrees within each element are shown in the chart in §29.2351.

#### §29.2267 Fiber.

The term applied to the veins in a tobacco leaf. The large central vein is called the midrib or stem. The smaller lateral and cross veins are considered from the standpoint of size and color.

#### §29.2268 Finish.

The reflectance factor in color perception. Finish indicates the sheen or shine of the surface of a tobacco leaf. (See chart, §29.2351.)

## § 29.2269 Fire-cured.

Tobacco cured under artificial atmospheric conditions by the use of open fires from which the smoke and fumes of burning wood are partly absorbed by the tobacco.

# §29.2270 Foreign matter.

Any extraneous substance or material such as stalks, suckers, straw,

strings, rubber bands, and abnormal amounts of dirt or sand. (See Rule 22, § 29.2413.)

#### §29.2271 Form.

The stage of preparation of tobacco such as unstemmed or stemmed.

#### § 29.2272 Grade.

A subdivision of a type according to group, quality, and color.

#### § 29.2273 Grademark.

A grademark normally consists of three symbols which indicate group, quality, and color. A letter is used to indicate group, a number to indicate quality, and a letter or letters to indicate color. For example, B3D means Heavy Leaf, good quality, and dark-brown color.

#### §29.2274 Green (G).

A term applied to green-colored tobacco. Any leaf which has a green color affecting 20 percent or more of its surface may be described as green. (See Rule 18, §29.2409.)

# § 29.2275 Group.

A division of a type covering closely related grades based on certain characteristics which are usually related to stalk position, body, or the general quality of the tobacco. Groups in this type are Wrappers (A), Heavy Leaf (B), Thin Leaf (C), Lugs (X), Nondescript (N), and Scrap (S).

## §29.2276 Injury.

Hurt or impairment from any cause except the fungous or bacterial diseases which attack tobacco in its cured state. (See Rule 16, §29.2407.)

## § 29.2277 Leaf scrap.

A byproduct of unstemmed tobacco. Leaf scrap results from handling unstemmed tobacco and consists of tangled whole or broken leaves.

### §29.2278 Leaf structure.

The cell development of a leaf as indicated by its porosity. (See chart,  $\S 29.2351.$ )